

they came. Thus he may not have "filled the public eye" as his abilities warranted, and an unchastened ambition might desire; but his was a high, strenuous, useful and honorable life with which we, his children, are well content.

Father planted and farmed until he moved to Walterboro nearly twenty-six years ago. He was never a "politician," and yet held office in his native county for twenty years. He first served in his State Legislature, heading the ticket in 1862 and 1864. The collapse of the government in 1865 necessitated another election in the Fall of that year, and he was again chosen. At the first session, however, of the new Legislature he was elected Commissioner in Equity for Colleton county, and resigned his seat in that body. He was Commissioner for three years, until the Republican Reconstruction "*regime*" began. The eight years following were spent quietly upon his farm, Ernesdyl, near Walterboro. When the State was redeemed by the Democrats in 1876, father became Probate Judge, and served in that office nearly fourteen years, until he resigned in the summer of 1890. For nearly eight years of this same period he also held the position of Master in Equity, by appointment of the governor. He also resigned this office.

During this time also, for several years, he edited our county paper; and all through his life he was in demand for addresses on political, moral and religious themes.

In 1890 he closed his political life with a vigorous, but eventually unsuccessful, canvass for the office of Comptroller General of the State. He led on the first ballot in the convention, and the vote finally stood one hundred and forty to one hundred and fifty-five for his competitor.

Father received his colonelcy from Governor Pickens, a commission empowering him to raise State troops to meet the exigencies of the stirring times immediately preceding the War between the States. Events, however, moved more rapidly than was anticipated, and the scheme gave way to one of larger compass; not, however, until much had been accomplished. Father at last entered the army as First